

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Venezuela

DATE DISTR. 10 NOV 50

SUBJECT NTS (National Workers Union)

NO. OF PAGES 7

25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

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The history of the international Russian emigre organization Natsionalno-Trudovoi Soyuz (NTS - National Labor Union), or Rusekiye Solidaristi (Russian Solidarists) has previously been reported.* Briefly, the NTS grew out of the Natsionalnyy Soyuz Molodezhy (NSM - National Youth Union) which was founded in 1924-25 in Pernik, Bulgaria, and was composed of relatives or sons of members of Russki Obshchi Voinski Soyuz (ROVS - General Russian Military Union). While anti-Soviet in sentiment, the NTS role during the last war is open to some question. Its members served with the Axis forces, but there is more than a little evidence that they permitted their natural sympathy for the Russian people and their resistance to a war of extermination to overcome their hatred of the Bolshevik regime. The international command cannot be described as being unobjectionable. NTS appears to be active in the Western Hemisphere, reports having been received on it from Cuba, Chile, Brazil, and Argentina, as well as Venezuela.

NTS IN VENEZUELA:

1. NTS in Venezuela, an affiliate of the international organization, is weak and ineffectual. In March 1950 it had 22-25 members, but in September 1950 it was estimated that there were only 11 members in Venezuela. Its principal activities appear to be recruiting new members, distributing literature favorable to the organization, attempting to penetrate other Russian emigre groups, and maintaining liaison with NTS international headquarters.
2. In September 1950 the governing committee was composed of the following:

Aleksei V. Batyan	Aleksei Alekseyevich Kandaurov
Vladimir Aleksandrovich Tretyakov	Zoran Afanasyevich Bolik
3. Vasili Dacholdin and Nikolai Boyk are active collaborators on the executive staff. They were accepted as members of the NTS in May 1950 upon the recommendation of Tretyakov. Members who appear to be inactive include:

Aleksandr Generalov
Vladimir Savelliev
Nikolai Massianov

Nikolai Rozdovsky
Ivan Alekseyevich Makayev

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29 JUN 1978

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4. Until early 1949 Zoran Afanasyevich Belik was chief of NTS in Venezuela. However, upon the recommendation of Tretyakov, who is the most influential member, Belik's removal was ordered by the international headquarters. Belik was replaced by Datyan and given the position of NTS chief of counter-intelligence in compensation. Tretyakov later had Belik removed from that post and assumed the duties of chief himself.
5. The failure of NTS to gain influence in the emigre colony in Caracas is attributed to the following:
 - a. Exorbitant claims that NTS is the only strong, well-organized anti-Soviet political movement; that all other anti-Soviet Russian organizations have sold out to the North Americans; and that NTS is the only group struggling along independently;
 - b. False, and at times ridiculous, representation of living conditions within the Soviet Union;
 - c. Excessive secrecy surrounding all NTS activities which has aroused the suspicions of potential members;
 - d. Dissension between the "old" and the "new" refugees. The "old" refugees are those persons who emigrated prior to World War II; the "new" emigrated between the outbreak of World War II and the German collapse. It is believed that the removal of Belik from the chief post of NTS was caused by this dissension. He is an "old" emigrant. His removal has left NTS in the hands of the "new" emigrants.
6. In June 1949, in an effort to enlarge its membership, NTS inaugurated a series of indoctrination lectures, the candidates for which were carefully selected. The course was abandoned when none of the candidates appeared for the third lecture. The governing committee then ordered each member to choose one prospective member and induce him to take the indoctrination course and to join the organization. Little success was had from this campaign.

SOVIET PENETRATION OF NTS:

7. It is the general opinion of Russians in Venezuela that NTS has been penetrated by the Soviets. Russians are suspicious of the organization because the Soviets have never asked for repatriation of any NTS members and because of the various provocative articles appearing in the international NTS newspaper, Posev, regarding anti-Soviet Russians in Venezuela. Various members of NTS have been suspected of being Soviet agents. Frequent reports have been received to the effect that the Soviet Embassy is very interested in obtaining photographs and pieces of correspondence of NTS members, and copies of official NTS publications.
8. Early in May 1950 NTS headquarters in Caracas was informed by NTS headquarters in the United States that Kassianov, Tretyakov, and Kandaurov had been threatened with reprisals against their families in the Soviet Union unless they "cooperated" with the Soviet Embassy. A person called "Vera" allegedly carried the threats to Kassianov. Kassianov and Tretyakov are believed to have agreed to cooperate with the Soviets. Kandaurov is suspected of having been a Soviet agent for some time. It is believed that he is the Soviet Embassy's source of information concerning matters of policy and program which are discussed at secret meetings of the NTS governing committee, and which allegedly are immediately brought to the attention of the Soviet Embassy.
9. Articles appearing in the newspaper Posev, which is published in the American Zone of Germany, have contended that World War I Russian refugees in Venezuela

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are traitors to the liberation of Russia and are undermining the loyal activities of World War II refugees in the country. These articles have greatly upset NTS leaders as the author of them was Kandaurov, writing under his pseudonym of Aleksei Privalov. It is believed that Kandaurov, acting on the orders of the Soviet Embassy, is deliberately endeavoring to increase the existing breach between the "old" and "new" refugee groups and is using Posev as his medium. Many Russians in Venezuela have become distrustful of NTS since the publication of these articles. Makayev and Batyan reportedly were planning to address letters to the editors of Posev, condemning Kandaurov's articles.

NTS WORK IN THE USSR:

10. In 1949 Tretyakov reportedly received orders from Viktor M. Baidalakov, international chief of NTS, to recruit Russians for undercover work, on behalf of NTS, within Russia and eastern European countries. NTS headquarters allegedly was prepared to procure travel documents and to pay fifty per cent of the cost of transportation to Europe, with the volunteer paying the other fifty per cent. Several volunteers applied to Tretyakov, who, however, would neither commit himself on the recruitment nor enroll the volunteers into NTS.
11. It was reported in May 1950 that an unidentified Russian woman in Caracas had received a letter from Viktor M. Baidalakov. The letter stated that the woman's son, a NTS member supposedly in the USSR, is well and that Baidalakov hoped to be able to forward her a personal letter from her son in a short time. The son reportedly had previously spent one and one-half years in the USSR on a secret mission for NTS. He was at one time a member of the RDA (Russian Army of Liberation) and is personally known to Tretyakov.

NTS PENETRATION OF VENEZUELAN BRANCH OF RUSSIAN-AMERICAN UNION:

12. When General Konstantin Aleksandrovich Kellner approached Tretyakov and Belik asking for assistance in forming a Venezuelan branch of the Russian-American Union, more properly known as the Organization for Aid to Russians Outside the USSR, the NTS members refused. Their final agreement to help Kellner was reportedly based on the hope that they could gain control of the Union for NTS.
13. Other members of NTS have been prominent in the organization. Kandaurov has at times aided by organizing dances to raise money for the Union. Ivan Alekseyevich Makayev, who took an active part in the formation of the Union, has been made Secretary-Treasurer. Makayev is believed to be the real power in the Union, having taken over the administration from [redacted] General.

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